Central Government Assistance to State Government for opening 'Industrial Development Centres'

126. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the criteria of determining 'Industrial Backwardness' of an area stiputed by Central Government;

(b) whether Central Government provides any assistance to the State Government, for opening 'Industrial Development Centres' in each district Centre for the development of backward areas;

(c) if so, what is the quantum of assistance being provided by Central Government to each such Centre; and

(d) how many such Centres have been started in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Industrial backwardness of an area was determined after taking into account various factors *viz.* distance from large cities and large industrial projects, poverty of the people, density of population in relation to utilisation of productive resources and employment opportunities, adequate availability of electric power, water and transport and communication facilities.

(b) and (c) With effect from 1.4.83, the Central Government had formulated a scheme to assist the State Governments having No Industry Districts to develop infrastructural facilities in identified growth centres. The Central assistance was limited to 1/3rd of the total cost of infrastructural development subject to a maximum of Rs. 2 crores per No Industry District.

(d) Malanpur, Manheri, Meghnagar, Pithampur, Purena and Pillukhedi growth centres identified by Government of Madhya Pradesh for development of infrastructural facilities in the No Industry Districts of Bhind, Mandla, Jhabua, Dhar, Panna and Rajgarh have been approved by the Central Government and a sum of Rs. 2.75 crores has been released as Central assistance in respect of these growth centres.

Production of Cement

127. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of cement would be surplus over the expected demand in 1988-89;

(b) if so, how do Government propose to meet the probability of crisis in cement industry due to surplus production;

(c) whether Government expect that the overall production of cement would fall after 1988-89 due to curtailment and lowering of production by the cement industry as a whole as a solution to their crisis; and

(d) if so, how the Government will ensure "no fall" in the cement producing units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir. The target of cement production for the year 1988-89 fixed in consultation with the major cement manufacturers is 43.5 million tonnes. The Working Group on Cement Industry for 1985—90 had estimated the demand for cement in 1984-85 and 1989-90 as 37 million tonnes and 49 million tonnes respectively. On this basis, the demand for 1988—89 is estimated to be 46.3 million tonnes at a uniform growth rate of 5.78% per annum.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Centrally Sponsored Units in Orissa

128. SHRI KANHU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up more industries in Orissa; and

(b) if so, how many persons have been given employment in centrally sponsored units in Orissa so far?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the available information 0.75 lakh persons were given employment in the central public sector enterprises in Orissa.

Supplying Power to Public Sector Companies

129. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have appointed a Committee to look into the feasibility of supplying 15 per cent of power to the public Sector companies located in the vicinity of the power plants in the country;

(b) whether the Central Government have given appropriate directions to the State Governments to follow on the lines of the Central Government; and

(c) by when the proposed Committee will submit its report to government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The question of reserving a portion of the electricity generated at Central Power Stations for supply to Central Public Sector Undertakings, primarily in the core sector, has been referred for consideration to a Committee on which State Electricity Boards are represented. The Committee is expected to submit its report shortly.

Developing Non-conventional Energy Sources

130. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have called for a massive effort to develop non-conventional energy sources in the country as the cost of conventional energy is becoming exceedingly high;

(b) whether to promote the development of non-conventional energy sources, Central Government have taken any steps or given any directions to the State Governments; and

(c) if so, what are the full details thereof and further steps which Government propose to take to effectively develop non-conventional energy sources in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have taken up large scale programmes for extensive utilisation of non-conventional energy sources such as biogas, biomass, solar energy, wind energy, etc. throughout the country. These programmes have become very popular and have also stated giving benefits to the users particularly in the rural areas.

The Department have taken steps to intensify research and development, undertake demonstration projects and support extension activities in respect of matured technology through various forms of incentives and subsidy. The State Governments/ nodal agencies, public instituions and other non-governmental organisations are actively involved in these